

Boat Registration

In Michigan, all motorized vessels propelled by any type of motor, sailboats, privately owned row-boats over 16 feet in length, rental or commercial canoes, and all rental and commercial vessels principally used in Michigan, must be registered. Vessels numbered under the approved numbering system of another state may temporarily use Michigan waters. When a vessel is moved to Michigan as its state of principal use, it must be numbered in Michigan within 60 days. Contact Secretary of State for boater registration information.

Navigation Lights

Recreational boats must display their required navigation lights at all times between sunset and sunrise, and during daylight periods of reduced visibility.

Ice Shanties

A person placing a shanty on the ice for fishing shall permanently affix their name and address on ALL SIDES of the shanty in legible letters at least 2 inches in height. The letters shall be readily visible and consist of material not soluble in water. The name and address must be on the shanty and may not be placed on a board or other material that is then attached to the shanty. Tents or other temporary shelters that are removed from the ice each day do not require identification.

Persons placing a shanty on the waters of the **Upper Peninsula** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 31 of any year.

Persons placing a shanty on waters in the counties of **Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, or Wexford** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 15 of any year. Persons placing a shanty upon the waters of the remaining portion of the Lower Peninsula shall remove the shanty by midnight on March 1 of any year. Shanties placed on L. St. Clair shall be removed before sunset on the first Sunday after February 20 of any year. **In all areas, a shanty must be removed if ice conditions become unsafe, regardless of the date. After the above dates, a shanty must be removed at the end of each day's fishing activity.**

Lead Alternatives

The DNR would like to remind anglers that lead can cause mortality when ingested by mammals and birds. There are non-toxic alternatives to lead such as tin, bismuth, steel, and tungsten-nickel alloy for use in jigs, sinkers and other gear. These materials can be found at established sporting goods retailers and on the internet.

Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals

Michigan waters are threatened by non-native aquatic invasive plants and animals such as the zebra mussel, round goby, sea lamprey, Eurasian ruffe, Eurasian watermilfoil, rusty crayfish, and spiny water flea. These species and others are harmful to recreational fishing and do extensive economic and natural resource damage. Anglers should learn to identify non-native species they may encounter and take precautions to prevent their spread. These actions include:

- Removing all visible aquatic plants and animals from your boat, motor, trailer, and accessory equipment before leaving the access area.
- Disposing of live bait and aquatic animals in the trash. Do not release live bait into the water.
- Draining live wells and all water from boats before leaving the access area.
- Power washing boats and trailers wherever possible or drying all equipment thoroughly.

Do not use live or dead aquatic invasive animals such as round goby or rusty crayfish as bait. Natural resource managers are concerned about introduction of new species and have set up an Angler's Monitoring Network to report any discoveries. Anglers should save and report unidentified fish to the nearest DNR Operations Service Center listed on the backcover of this booklet. If you have any questions, contact an Operations Service Center or visit www.michigan.gov/deq-anglers-monitoring-network.

Please help support invasive species control, research, and education efforts. Purchase a Great Lakes Specialty Decal at the Michigan Mall at www.michigan.gov/michiganmall.

